AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Process for preparation of middle distillates by selective conversion of a hydrocarbon containing feedstock under hydrocracking conditions with a hydrocarbon conversion catalyst comprising one or more hydrogenation components supported on a support comprising a beta zeolite and an amorphous inorganic oxide, the beta zeolite having a SiO_2: Al_2O_3 molar ratio of at least 50, and the amorphous inorganic oxide consisting of silica-alumina and alumina and combinations thereof, the support having an Ion Exchange Capacity-Acidity Index of less than 3.7, the support comprising less than [[50]] 15 wt % zeolite beta.

2. (Original) Process of claim 1 wherein the support has an NH_3-TPD Acidity Index of less than 3.5.

3. (Previously presented) Process of claim 1, in which the NH_3-TPD Acidity Index is less than 2.3 and/or the Ion Exchange Capacity-Acidity Index is less than 2.7.

4. (Original) Process of claim 1, wherein the beta zeolite has a SiO_2: Al_2O_3 molar ratio of at least 100.

5. (Original) Process of claim 1, wherein the one or more hydrogenation components are selected from the elements of Group VIII and/or Group VI B.

6. (Original) Process of claim 5, wherein the hydrogenation components are selected from the group consisting of tungsten, molybdenum, nickel and combinations thereof.

7. (Original) Process of claim 6, wherein the hydrogenation components are a combination of nickel and tungsten.

8. (Previously presented) Process of claim 1, wherein the support comprises at least 50 wt % amorphous inorganic oxide.

Claims 9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) Process of claim 2, in which the NH_3-TPD Acidity Index is less than 2.3 and/or the Ion Exchange Capacity-Acidity Index is less than 2.7.

12. (Previously presented) Process of claim 1, wherein only a single type of catalyst is used in a single hydrocracking step to selectively produce a single middle distillate product.

13. (Previously presented) A hydrocarbon conversion process comprising contacting a hydrocarbon feedstock in the presence of hydrogen under hydrocarbon conversion conditions with a catalyst as defined in claim 1.

Claim 14. (Canceled)